

Income tax center open weekly, ready to serve

The IRS kicked off the 2012 tax season with the filing deadline extended to April 17 due to April 15 falling on a weekend and observing Emancipation Day, a holiday recognized by the municipality of the District of Columbia.

The Fort Sill Income Tax Assistance Center is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. with trained staff ready to serve. The tax center is located in Building 4700 on the fourth floor.

What services can you receive tax preparation assistance with? Active duty and civilian spouse income (W-2s), survivor benefits, retirees (1099Rs), Social Security benefits, interest statements, gam-



Did you know?

By Col. Paul Hossenlopp
Fort Sill Garrison commander

bling earnings or losses, deductions from child care, home mortgage interests, educational expenses, Roth and traditional IRAs, amendments and 2010 tax assistance, and state taxes if your income is only affected from the above sources.

Because of budget and personnel constraints the tax center can no longer process rental income, self-employment, stock sales or trades (1099B), foreign earned income or royalties from mineral rights or oil, and cancellation of debts (1099Cs).

The following should be brought with you to the ITAC for tax preparation services: military ID card, Social Security numbers, and dates of birth for all listed on the tax return, W-2s, 1099-Rs, 1099-Gs and all other documents showing income received, interest and/or taxes paid, routing account number, receipts for child care (must have EIN number), real estate taxes, tuition expenses and a copy of last year's return, if itemizing deductions. If applicable, a death certificate,

power of attorney, and IRS Form 1310 Statement of Person Claiming Refund Due a Deceased Taxpayer if not a surviving spouse (i.e., a parent) may be needed to process your return.

Survivor specifics

Gold Star families, the 2012 tax season is upon us. Please call Survivor Outreach Services support personnel if you have any questions. Jodi Jordan, SOS support coordinator, 442-4282 or Christy Schrock AFC, SOS financial counselor, 442-4329, can assist you with this process. Specifically, survivors need to know they can process a tax return for year of death and a return for any preceding year not yet filed. Amendments to returns for prior years if deployed (tax liability is "forgiven" for the entire year of death and for three prior tax years ending on or after the first day the member served in a combat zone) are available for Soldiers killed in action. Filing status will remain the same as if the decedent were alive for the year of death. Surviving



File photo

Volunteer Woody Woodward, right, assists a customer at the Fort Sill Installation Tax Assistance Center last month during its opening. The center sees walk-in customers on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Customers with appointments are seen Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The ITAC is open from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., and is in Building 4700 Mow-Way Road, fourth floor. For an appointment call 442-6445/3526. To see a list of items to bring, visit <http://sill-www.army.mil/Jag/Tax%20Center.html>.

spouses may file a joint return for the final tax return as long as he or she has not remarried and may use a qualifying widow(er) filing status for up to two years after the year of death if there is a dependent child and the spouse does not remarry. It is important to note, Social Security benefits may be taxable, Survivors Benefit Plan benefits are taxable, and children receiving

SBP must file a tax return. The Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefit processed and paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs is not taxable.

You may call the ITAC at 442-6445/3526 for more information or walk-ins and appointment scheduling.

Military ID card holders can check out the following resources if you are interested in preparing your own

taxes for free this season. www.irs.gov/efile/article/0,,id=118986,00.html and Military One Source 800-342-9647 or www.military-onesource.com.

Remember, keep a copy of your tax return for at least three years. If possible, use the label and envelope sent to you from the IRS. Your refund, if any, will arrive within four to six weeks. To check on your refund, call the IRS at 800-829-1040.

LEGAL NOTICE

Local non-profit organizations wishing to participate in the 2012 Fort Sill-Lawton Combined Federal Campaign should contact Cheryl Foster, Campaign Coordinator, Fort Sill, Oklahoma at (580) 442-3113 or email cheryl.foster1@us.army.mil for application or information.

Completed 2012 applications must be received in the campaign office located at 4700 Mow-Way Road, Room 150N, Fort Sill, OK by 4:00 pm on April 1, 2012

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Briefs

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Green-to-Gold scholarships

The Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Green-to-Gold Hip Pocket Scholarship program seeks nominations for the 2012-2013 school year. The program consists of two-, three- and four-year scholarships. Ideal candidates are enlist-

ed Soldiers who display the scholar, athlete, leader attributes and qualities the Army looks for in its officer corps. Fort Sill can nominate up to two Soldiers for the program by March 16. Interested Soldiers should work through their brigade channels for the application and nomination procedures. For more information call 442-3085 or 442-3785.

Fort Sill museums

The Fort Sill National Historic Landmark Museum

is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Sundays. For more information, call 442-5123. The Field Artillery Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 442-1819 for more information.

ACAP appointments

The Army Career and Alumni Program is a congressionally mandated transition program for all

Soldiers who have served at least 180 consecutive days active duty. Prospective retirees can begin ACAP at two years prior to retirement; Soldiers who are leaving the Army are required to start program no later than 12 months from their expiration term of service date. All chapters and Soldiers going through medical or physical evaluation boards need to start the program immediately. Register online at www.acap.army.mil or call 442-6428/2222.

Savings catch up

Federal employees who participate in the Thrift Savings Plan and will turn age 50 during the year are eligible to make TSP catch-up contributions. Catch-up contributions are supplemental tax-deferred contributions that employees age can make to the TSP beyond the maximum amount they can contribute through regular contributions. Visit the TSP website for more information at www.tsp.gov.

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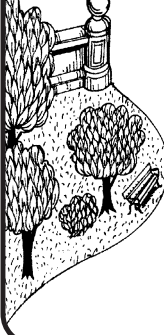
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